

# Governor's Health Care Facilities Stakeholder Summit

## January 18, 2006

The following recommendations regarding hospital and other health care facilities (nursing homes, assisted living facilities centers and other such facilities) evacuation were made at this Summit by:

- Denny Thomas, Risk Manager, Ministry Health Systems, Saint Joseph's Hospital Marshfield,
- Bill Bazan, Vice-President Metro Milwaukee, Wisconsin Hospital Association
- Dennis Tomczyk, Director, Hospital Disaster Preparedness, Wisconsin Division of Public Health

### **Recommendations for Hospital Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place**

1. Develop a state-wide template to encourage as much consistency in evacuation and shelter-in-place plans  
**Responsibility:** Hospital Expert Panel
2. Fund one full-scale total facility evacuation exercise. Any such exercise needs to involve other emergency responders  
**Responsibility:** Multi-Disciplinary Expert Panel
3. Sponsor a table-top shelter in place exercise, based on actual occurrences at the New Orleans hospitals  
**Responsibility:** Multi-Disciplinary Expert Panel
4. Search and rescue teams and others need to be trained to assist in hospital evacuation  
**Responsibility:** Multi-Disciplinary Expert Panel
5. Both sending and receiving hospitals need to identify logistical issues and exercise their ability to manage these issues  
**Responsibility:** Hospital Expert Panel
6. Hospitals to identify logistical issues checklist  
**Responsibility:** Hospital Expert Panel
7. Develop plan on how to best use off-site facilities for evacuated patients  
**Responsibility:** Hospital Expert Panel
8. Each hospital to identify potential destination for specific patient types  
**Responsibility:** Hospital Expert Panel
9. Establish "Directory of Facilities"

**Responsibility:** Multi-Disciplinary Expert Panel

10. State to hold MOU for these facilities

**Responsibility:** Multi-Disciplinary Expert Panel

11. Establish a Regional Planning Body

**Responsibility:** Multi-Disciplinary Expert Panel

12. Address coordination of multiple EOCs

**Responsibility:** Governor

**Responsibility:** Multi-Disciplinary Expert Panel

13. Investigate feasibility of purchasing portable ventilators so that “ICU rooms can be created”

**Responsibility:** Hospital Expert Panel

14. Develop education for public about “altered standards of care”

**Responsibility:** Multi-Disciplinary Expert Panel

15. Develop education for healthcare providers and first responders about “altered standards of care”

**Responsibility:** Multi-Disciplinary Expert Panel

## Implementation Process

To proceed with the implementation of these objectives, we are recommending the following Action Steps:

### **Step One:** Formation of a State Expert Panel on the Evacuation of Hospitals

**Membership:** Hospital staff, who have the operational responsibility for evacuation and shelter-in-place protocols and decisions

**Mission:** Develop a template policy for the evacuation or shelter-in-place of hospitals and identify the critical operational components that should be consistent across all hospitals in the state.

**Time-Frame:** The first meeting of this Panel is scheduled for Wednesday, March 8, 2006. It is anticipated that this will require about 3 – 4 meetings with completion in June 2006.

## **Step Two:** Formation of a State Expert Panel on the Evacuation of Health Care Facilities

**Membership:** Staff from nursing homes, assisted living facilities and other such facilities, who have the operational responsibility for evacuation and shelter-in-place protocols and decisions

**Mission:** Develop a template policy for the evacuation or shelter-in-place of these healthcare facilities and identify the critical operational components that should be consistent across all these healthcare facilities in the state.

**Time-Frame:** The first meeting of this Panel is scheduled for May. It is anticipated that this will require about 2 – 3 meetings with completion in July 2006.

## **Step Three:** Formation of a State Expert Panel on the Evacuation of Healthcare Facilities

**Membership:** Hospital staff, other healthcare facility staff, emergency management, fire departments, police and other emergency response partners, who may be involved in assisting hospitals and other healthcare facilities in the decision to evacuate and shelter-in-place and in the actual implementation of the decision

**Mission:** Develop various options for how other emergency responders may assist hospital and other health care facilities in both the decision and implementation of the decision to evacuate or shelter-in-place and what resources may or may not be available to these facilities to assist with this implementation

**Time-Frame:** The first meeting of this Panel is scheduled for July 2006. It is anticipated that this will require about 2 – 3 meetings with completion in September 2006.

If you are interested in participating on one or more of these Panels, please contact Dennis Tomczyk, Director, Hospital Disaster Preparedness, Wisconsin Division of Public Health at 608-266-3128 or email at [tomczdj@dhfs.state.wi.us](mailto:tomczdj@dhfs.state.wi.us).

Your comments and suggestions on this process are also welcome. Please feel free to share your ideas by contacting Dennis Tomczyk.